

## Message Text

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ACTION EA-14

INFO OCT-01 EUR-25 NEA-10 ISO-00 AF-10 IO-14 CIAE-00

DODE-00 NSAE-00 NSCE-00 SSO-00 USIE-00 CCO-00 INRE-00

PM-07 H-03 INR-10 L-03 NSC-10 PA-04 RSC-01 PRS-01

SPC-03 SS-20 ACDA-19 EB-11 SCEM-02 SCI-06 INT-08

TRSE-00 OMB-01 SR-02 ORM-03 AID-20 DRC-01 /209 W

----- 021543

O R 190655Z OCT 73

FM AMEMBASSY TOKYO

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 7609

INFO AMEMBASSY BONN

AMEMBASSY PARIS

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY TEHRAN

AMEMBASSY JIDDA

USMISSION OECD PARIS

USMISSION OECD BRUSSELS

AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV

C O N F I D E N T I A L SECTION 1 OF 2 TOKYO 13617

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: ENRG, PFOR, JA

SUBJ: ARAB APROACH TO JAPAN ON ME

SUMMARY: AMBASSADORS FROM TEN ARAB STATES COLLECTIVELY CALLED ON FONMIN OHIRA OCTOBER 19 AND DELIVERED NOTE VERBALE URGING JAPAN TO TAKE POSITIVE, CONSTRUCTIVE AND OUTSPOKEN STAND ON ME CONFLICT. ACCORDING FONOFF SOURCE OHIRA EXPRESSED HIS UNDERSTANDING OF ARAB POSITION AND SAID HE WOULD CAREFULLY CONSIDER ARAB REQUESTS. OHIRA ALSO ASKED FOR ARAB UNDERSTANDING OF JAPANESE POSITION. END SUMMARY.

1. NINE AMBASSADORS AND CHARGE FROM ARAB STATES

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COLLECTIVELY CALLED ON FONMIN OHIRA MORNING OF OCTOBER 19

TO DELIVER NOTE VERBAL ON ME SITUATION AND TO DISCUSS  
JAPANESE POSITION.

2. PAGE AND ONE HALF NOTE VERBAL CONTAINED FOLLOWING FOUR  
POINTS (ACCORDING JIBIKI, DEPUTY HEAD FONOFF ME DIV.  
WHO INTERPRETED AT SESSION):

A. ISRAEL HAS IN PAST HAD AGGRESSIVE POLICIES AND HAS  
NOT HEEDED INTERNATIONAL PUBLIC OPINION IN ITS REFUSAL  
TO RETURN OCCUPIED TERRITORIES. AS A RESULT, THE  
PRESENT ME CONFLICT HAS BEGUN.

B. ALL ARAB REPRESENTATIVES IN TOKYO WISH TO CONVEY  
THE PRESENT GOJ POLICY ON ME SITUATION TO THEIR  
RESPECTIVE GOVERNMENTS.

3. THE ARAB NATIONS ASK JAPAN TO CLARIFY ITS POSITION  
QTE ON THESE EVENTS UNQTE. THE ARAB NATIONS HOPE  
JAPAN'S POSITION WILL BE COMPATIBLE WITH TRADITION  
AND THE QTE LOFTY UNQTE POSITION WHICH JAPAN HAS  
MAINTAINED AIMED AT SETTTLING THE ME PROBLEM IN A  
PEACEFUL AND EQUITABLE WAY.

4. THE ARAB NATIONS WISH THE GOJ TO TAKE A POSITIVE,  
CONSTRUCTIVE, AND OUTSPOKEN STAND IN SUPPORT OF THE  
COUNTRIES WHO WISH TO REGAIN THEIR OCCUPIED TERRITORIES.

2. ACCORDING TO JIBIKI, OHIRA REPLIED THAT GOJ DEEPLY  
CONCERNED ABOUT SITUATION WHICH ARAB COUNTRIES FACING.  
OHIRA SAID HE UNDERSTOOD POSITION WHICH AMBASSADORS WERE  
CONVEYING TO HIM. OHIRA EXPRESSED HOPE FOR CEASEFIRE  
AS SOON AS POSSIBLE AND SAID JAPAN'S ATTITUDE WAS TO  
ABIDE BY UN RES 242. OHIRA THEN REFERRED TO LETTER  
JAPANESE UN PERMREP SAITO HAD SENT TO UN SEC GEN WALDHEIM  
OCTOBER 17 (SEE USUN 4016 FOR TEXT) AND ADDED JAPAN  
PREPARED TO EXTEND ITS OVERALL COOPERATION TO UN  
ACTIVITIES RE ME CONFLICT.

3. OHIRA THEN SAID HE FULLY UNDERSTOOD REQUEST IN NOTE  
VERBALE THAT GOJ TAKE CONSTRUCTIVE AND OUTSPOKEN  
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POSITION RE ME CONFLICT AND WOULD EXTEND QTE OVERALL  
UNQTE COOPERATION TO SETTLE THE PROBLE. ALSO SAID  
JAPAN PREPARED ASSIST IN UN OR RED CROSS EFFORTS RE REFUGEE  
PROBLEM.

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TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 7610

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USMISSION OECD PARIS

USMISSION OECD BRUSSELS

AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV 143

C O N F I D E N T I A L SECTION 2 OF 2 TOKYO 13617

4. OHIRA THEN NOTED JAPANESE DEPENDENCY ON ARAB NATIONS FOR OIL SUPPLIES AND HIS APPRECIATION FOR STABLE OIL SUPPLIES TO DATE. IF AS RESULT OF ME WAR, OHIRA SAID, OIL SUPPLY CUT OFF OCCURS, JAPAN WILL BE FACED WITH SERIOUS SITUATION. OHIRA ASKED FOR COOPERATION AND UNDERSTANDING ON PART OF ARABS, AND SAID GOJ ON ITS SIDE INTENDS TO CAREFULLY CONSIDER WHAT IT SHOULD OR SHOULD NOT DO IN RESPONSE TO ARAB NOTE.

5. ACCORDING TO JIBIKI, SAUDI AMBASSADOR (WHO AS DEAN OF ARAB DIPLOMATIC CORPS IN TOKYO DID ALL TALKING ON BEHALF OF ARAB SIDE) SAID HE HIGHLY APPRECIATED OHIRA'S EXPRESSION OF UNDERSTANDING FOR ARAB POSITION AND ASKED THAT GOJ CONVEY RESULTS OF  
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ITS CON-

SIDERATION OF NOTE VERBAL TO AMBASSADORS PRESENT.

S.A. AMBASSADOR FURTHER SAID HE HAD NOT YET RECEIVED INSTRUCTIONS FROM JIDDA ON OIL SUPPLY TO JAPAN, BUT QTE ACCORDING TO DISPATCHES UNQTE OAEPEC ACTION WOULD HAVE NO INFLUENCE IN JAPAN.

6. ARAB AMBASSADORS PRESENT FOR MEETING WITH OHIRA WERE FROM ALGERIA, IRAQ, EGYPT, QATAR, KUWAIT, SAUDI ARABIA, SUDAN, LEBANON, AND MOROCCO. LIBYAN CHARGE ALSO PRESENT.

7. JIBIKI ALSO NOTED THAT PM TANAKA HAD RECEIVED PERSONAL MESSAGE FROM GOLDA MEIR ON OCTOBER 16. 3 PAGE LETTER LARGELY DEVOTED TO ISRAELI SEARCH FOR PEACE OVER YEARS. LETTER CONCLUDED QTE WE FEEL THAT ISRAEL HAS EVERY REASON TO HOPE FOR THE SYMPATHY AND UNDERSTANDING OF ALL PEACE LOVING NATIONS. THE INTERESTS OF PEACE IN THE MIDDLE EAST, INDIVISIBLE FROM PEACE IN THE WORLD, SURELY CANNOT BE SERVED BY ADHERENCE TO THE CAMP OF THOSE WHO HAVE CHOSEN WAR UNQTE.

8. OHIRA GAVE PRESS CONFERENCE SHORTLY AFTER CALL BY ARAB AMBASSADORS. KYODO WIRE SERVICE REPORT HIGH-LIGHTS OHIRA'S REPORTED COMMENT THAT SAUDI ARABIAN AMBASSADOR HAD TOLD HIM OF HIS BELIEF THAT JAPAN QTE WOULD NOT BE INCONVENIENCED UNQTE BY ARAB OIL PRODUCING NATIONS' NEW OIL STRATEGY. AT PRESS CONFERENCE OHIRA APPARENTLY MADE NO STATEMENT WHICH COULD BE CONSIDERED AS RESPONSE TO ARAB REQUEST FOR OUTSPOKEN STAND ON ME.

9. FIRST SECRETARY OF LEBANESE EMBASSY TOLD EMBOFF AFTERNOON OF OCTOBER 19 OHIRA HAD PROMISED ARAB AMBASSADORS THAT THEIR REQUEST WOULD BE TAKEN UP AT CABINET MEETING EVENING OF OCTOBER 19. ALSO NOTED THAT EGYPTIAN AMBASSADOR HAD HAD BILATERAL MEETING WITH OHIRA AT SOME (UNSPECIFIED) TIME BEFORE TODAY'S SESSION TO QTE PRESSURE UNQTE JAPAN TO ABANDON ITS NEUTRAL POSITION AND TO SUPPORT PEACEFUL SOLUTION IN ME BASED ON WITHDRAWAL TO PRE 1967 LINES.  
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10. COMMENT: EMBASSY TOOK INITIATIVE OCT 17 TO PASS FONOFF SUBSTANCE OF STATE 203685 (BASIC GUIDANCE ON US POSITION ON ME SITUATION). WE DID SO MINDFUL OF

DEPARTMENT'S STRICTURES THAT THIS POSITION SHOULD NOT  
BE REVEALED UNTIL DEPT SPOKESMAN HAD SPOKEN TO MATTER  
OF US RESUPPLY OF ISRAEL. WHEN THIS HAD OCCURRED, WE  
ACTED BECAUSE WE WERE ANXIOUS THAT GOJ HAVE AUTHORITATIVE  
STATEMENT OF OUR POSITION ON ME CONFLICT. WE ARE  
HOPEFUL THAT OHIRA HAD OUR POSITION IN MIND AT TIME  
OF MEETING WITH ARAB REPS.  
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## Message Attributes

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**Capture Date:** 01 JAN 1994  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** WAR, PETROLEUM, SUPPLIES, FOREIGN POLICY POSITION, EXPORT CONTROLS  
**Control Number:** n/a  
**Copy:** SINGLE  
**Draft Date:** 19 OCT 1973  
**Decaption Date:** 01 JAN 1960  
**Decaption Note:**  
**Disposition Action:** RELEASED  
**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Authority:** willialc  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 28 MAY 2004  
**Disposition Event:**  
**Disposition History:** n/a  
**Disposition Reason:**  
**Disposition Remarks:**  
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**Errors:** N/A  
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**Original Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
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**Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
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**Secure:** OPEN  
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**Subject:** ARAB APPROACH TO JAPAN ON ME  
**TAGS:** ENRG, PFOR, JA, XF  
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**Type:** TE  
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